



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS TX 75202-2733

JUL 20 2011

The Honorable Rick Perry
Governor of Texas
Post Office Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Perry:

Thank you for your letter of June 2, 2011, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conveying your recommendation on area designations for the State of Texas under the 2010 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO₂) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS).

The letter recommended a nonattainment designation for Jefferson County based on a 2010 SO₂ regulatory design value exceeding 75.4 ppb; attainment designations for Dallas, Ellis, El Paso, Galveston, Gregg, Harris, Kauffman, McLennan and Nueces counties, based on 2010 SO₂ regulatory design values of 75.4 ppb or less; and unclassifiable designations for all other Texas counties.

We will evaluate the recommendation in accordance with the Clean Air Act (CAA) requirements and our guidance documents and will inform you of our intended designations no later than 120 days prior to promulgation of our final designations. Following the announcement of the EPA's intended designations, states and tribes will have an opportunity to comment on any modifications we propose to their recommendations and submit additional information for the EPA to consider.

We appreciate your work to protect the environment and look forward to continuing to work with you. If you have any questions concerning area designations for the 2010 1-hour SO₂ standard, please contact me at (214) 665-2100, or your staff may contact Mr. Guy Donaldson of my staff at (214) 665-7242

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Armendariz", is written over the typed name and title.

Al Armendariz
Regional Administrator

cc: Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., Chairman
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Mark Vickery, P.G., Executive Director
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality